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ABSTRACT

This Kids Count report assembles some of the indicators that describe the economic environment of Minnesota children and families. The report is intended to serve as a resource for policymakers at the city, county, and state levels, as well as community advocates, parents, and those who work with children. Section 1 of the report presents statistical findings for the following indicators for the state as a whole and for 11 economic development regions: (1) children and adults living in poverty; (2) per capita personal income; (3) minimum family income needed; (4) unemployment rate; (5) ratio of dependents to workers; (6) major industries and projected growth; (7) ratio of government payments to wages and salaries; (8) children's services spending per capita; and (9) revenue-raising capacity. Section 2 is organized by region and outlines trends in each indicator from the middle to the late 1990s. The report concludes with information on data sources and definitions. (KB)

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Measuring the Economic Well-Being of Families and Children

1999

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at the **Joint Religious Legislative Coalition**.

Minnesota KIDS COUNT releases periodic reports and an annual data book to provide a statistical profile of Minnesota's children and suggestions for action on their behalf. This data book was made possible through funds provided by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

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http://www.cdf-mn.org

Minnesota KIDS COUNT Staff

Jim Koppel, Director, Children's Defense Fund-MN
Diane Benjamin, KIDS COUNT Director, Children's Defense Fund-MN
Brian Rusche, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition
Jim Casebolt, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition

KIDS COUNT Advisory and Data Committees, 1999

Sherry Boyce, St. Louis County Extension, Duluth
Carolyn Link Carlson, Blue Cross/Blue Shield Minnesota
Trudy Dunham, Center for 4-H Youth Development, Minnesota Extension Service
Richard Fong, Minnesota Planning
Ann Hill, Ombudsperson for African American Families, State of Minnesota
Judith Kahn, Knoepke Institute, University of Minnesota
Emari Levine, Minnesota Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention and Parenting
Fritz Ohnsorg, Division of Family Health, Minnesota Department of Health
Patricia Ray, Ombudsperson for Spanish Speaking Families, State of Minnesota
Pete Rode, Urban Coalition

Report Designed and Produced By:

Linda Coffin, PageCrafters

ERRATUM Page 7

Figures for the number of seniors per every 100 workers in 2025 should be as follows:

REGION 3	52
REGION 4	51
REGION 5	49
REGION 6	40
REGION 7	32
REGION 8	85
REGION 9	38
REGION 10	40
REGION 11	29

This revision also be made in the "Regional Profiles" section (e.g., for region 3 on page 14 seniors per every 100 workers in 2025 should read 52 instead of 23.

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INTRODUCTION

People interested in child well-being have traditionally focused on indicators of child problems such as teenage pregnancy, school dropouts, juvenile crime and child abuse and neglect. There has also been a movement to develop more promotional or asset-based indicators for children and families, looking at what contributes to healthy growth and development at both the individual and community level.

Less attention has been given to the economic context of children and families' lives, however. Data which examine areas such as employment, wages, tax base, and government spending contribute to a better understanding of the environment surrounding children and families. As we work to promote family self-sufficiency and to support parents in raising healthy, well-functioning children, a better understanding of the economic conditions facing families can improve our policy making and inform programs and services.

This publication is a first attempt to assemble some of the indicators that describe the economic environment of Minnesota children and families. It is intended to serve as a resource for policy makers at the city, county, and state level, as well as community advocates, parents, and those who work with children.

While this publication contains a great deal of information, there are some crucial economic factors and trends that are not addressed. For example, we do not have data about trends away from stable, long-term employment to temporary, contract and "as-needed" employment, which are happening in many sectors of the economy. The implications of this change for families are potentially great.

We also do not have state-specific data on changes in the personal savings rate, or increases in personal debt. While we examine some indicators of cash income, we do not consider non-cash wealth, such as home ownership, retirement savings, and other investments. These factors all affect family well-being as much as or more than cash income, and hopefully, more data will become available over time.

Most of the data in this book does not look at economic differences between Minnesotans of different races and ethnicities, nor at the experiences of immigrants versus those born in the United States. Without this information, the data cannot paint a complete picture of the situation for many Minnesota families.

This publication contains information for Minnesota as a whole as well as the eleven economic development regions. Data for individual counties is available on our web site at *http://www.cdf-mn.org*, or it can be faxed on request by calling our partners at the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition at (612) 870-3670.

Children & Adults Living in Poverty

Percent of Children & Adults Living in Poverty in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Region	1995 est. % of Children in Poverty	1995 est. % of All Persons in Poverty
REGION 1	15%	12%
REGION 2	22%	17%
REGION 3	16%	12%
REGION 4	15%	12%
REGION 5	18%	14%
REGION 6	13%	10%
REGION 7	10%	8%
REGION 8	12%	9%
REGION 9	11%	9%
REGION 10	10%	8%
REGION 11	11%	8%
STATE	12%	9%

What Does This Indicator Measure?

Children who live in families that made less than the federal poverty line ($16,450 for a family of four in 1997) and all persons who live below the poverty line. This figure is estimated by the Census Bureau every three years. Because it's an estimate, these numbers should be interpreted carefully, especially at the county level.

What Does It Tell Us?

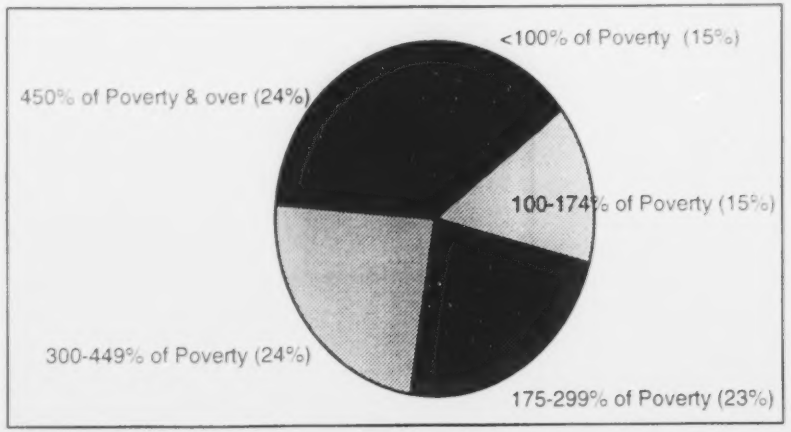
Poverty is closely linked with a number of poor outcomes in children and affects all areas of their lives. It has a devastating impact on their physical, emotional, and mental well-being. The overall poverty level in an area can tell us about the overall economic situation of people in the area and highlight differences between child poverty and total poverty numbers.

The estimated number and percentage of children in poverty declined from 1989 through 1995 in every Minnesota region and for the state as a whole and has continued to decline based on more recent national estimates. However, children continue to be more likely to live in poverty than adults, and a significant gap remains between various regions of the state. About 15% of Minnesota families have incomes under the poverty line and an additional 15% are near poor, while half of families are significantly above the poverty line.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Poverty data is available from the Census Bureau at *http://www.census.gov/hhes/*.

Minnesota Family Income in Relation to Federal Poverty Line, 1995-1998



From the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, averaged for 1996-1998

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Per Capita Personal Income

What Does This Indicator Measure?

The per capita personal income is the total income of persons in the state, region, or county, divided by the total number of residents. This includes children, seniors and others not in the work force.

What Does It Tell Us?

The per capita personal income does not tell us how much the average worker earns in a county or what the average job pays. It does give us an idea of the amount of income available in an area compared to other areas. The relative available wealth can then be compared.

Per Capita Personal Income in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

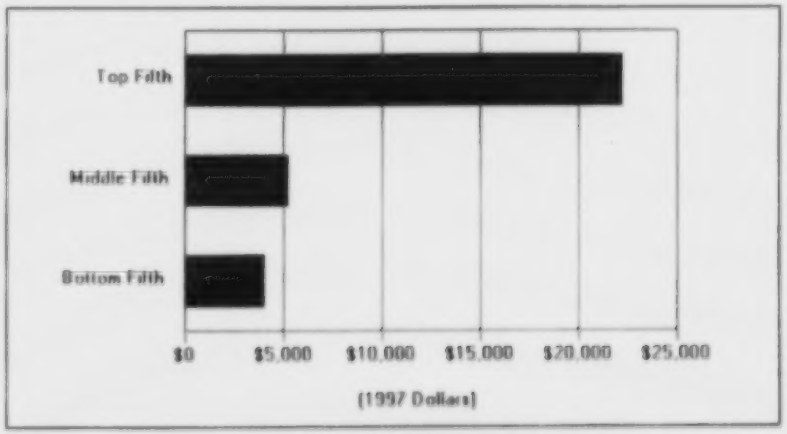
Per capita personal income (PCPI) is far higher in the metropolitan area (Region 11) than in any other area of the state. Although many poor people live in Region 11, there are also a large number of very highly paid individuals, and a larger number of workers relative to dependents, which results in an overall larger income. The lowest PCPI is in Regions 2 and 5 in northern Minnesota. In Region 2, the PCPI is 65% of the state PCPI and only 55% of the metro area PCPI.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Information on per capita personal income is available from the Bureau of Economic Analysis at *http://www.bea.doc.gov* or (202) 606-5360.

Region	Per Capita Personal Income 1997
REGION 1	$ 18,907
REGION 2	$ 17,167
REGION 3	$ 20,927
REGION 4	$ 19,213
REGION 5	$ 17,863
REGION 6	$ 21,507
REGION 7	$ 20,171
REGION 8	$ 20,591
REGION 9	$ 21,671
REGION 10	$ 23,251
REGION 11	$ 31,060
STATE	$ 26,243

Change in Average Incomes of Minnesota Families with Children, 1984-85 to 1994-96



Analysis from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, using the Census Bureau's CPS Data Base.

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Minimum Family Income Needed

What Does This Indicator Measure?

The minimum family income is an analysis of the monthly budget requirements necessary to achieve a "no frills" standard of living, as calculated by the Jobs Now Coalition in 1998. No money is included for debt payments or skills training. There is no entertainment budget, no restaurant meals, no vacation, and nothing is set aside for emergencies, retirement or children's college education. Apart from earned Income Tax Credits, no government or child support payments are included.

Minimum Family Income Needed in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

What Does It Tell Us?

The minimum family income gives us an idea of how much per year a family needs to earn in order to meet the minimum cost of living requirements. This contrasts with the federal poverty line, which is set at a level that is unrealistic to support an actual family.

The estimated minimum family income needed for a single parent with two children is $28,733 in Minnesota; there is a difference of approximately $10,000 between the most expensive areas of the state and the least expensive. For two working parents with two children, the estimated income needed is $38,540, due to increased childcare needs and extra costs associated with working.

Where Can I Get More Information?

The full report is available from the Jobs Now Coalition at *http://www.jobsnowmn.org* or (651) 290-0240.

Region	Family Budget 1 parent, 2 children		Family Budget 2 working parents, 2 children	
	Yearly Income	Hourly Wage	Yearly Income	Hourly Wage (combined)
REGION 1	$ 21,963	$ 10.56	$ 34,915	$ 16.79
REGION 2	$ 23,906	$ 11.49	$ 36,324	$ 17.46
REGION 3	$ 23,673	$ 11.38	$ 35,236	$ 16.94
REGION 4	$ 21,642	$ 10.40	$ 34,356	$ 16.52
REGION 5	$ 23,155	$ 11.13	$ 34,056	$ 16.37
REGION 6 east	$ 21,636	$ 10.40	$ 34,357	$ 16.52
REGION 6 west	$ 21,338	$ 10.26	$ 34,537	$ 16.60
REGION 7 east	$ 26,806	$ 12.89	$ 39,459	$ 18.97
REGION 7 west	$ 24,788	$ 11.92	$ 36,179	$ 17.39
REGION 8	$ 20,375	$ 9.80	$ 33,389	$ 16.05
REGION 9	$ 22,342	$ 10.74	$ 34,742	$ 16.70
REGION 10	$ 23,888	$ 11.48	$ 35,710	$ 17.17
REGION 11	$ 31,969	$ 15.37	$ 41,838	$ 20.11
STATE	$ 28,733	$ 13.81	$ 38,540	$ 18.53

Earnings of All Workers in Minnesota, 1996-97

Wage	Number	Percent
Less than $9.27/hr	731,116	36%
$9.27/hr or more	1,310,313	64%

($9.27 is the wage that each worker must earn in order to meet minimum costs for a two-parent family of four with both parents working full-time.)

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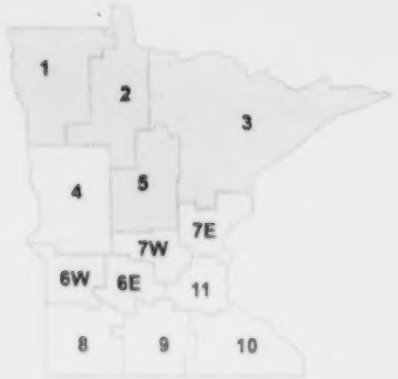
Rate of Unemployment

What Does This Indicator Measure?

The unemployment rate counts the number of people 16 and over who are looking for work, waiting to return to a job, or starting a new job, compared to the number of people over 16 in the population. It does not measure people who are underemployed (i.e., working part time but wanting to work full time) or discouraged workers who are not actively job seeking.



Rate of Unemployment in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

What Does It Tell Us?

The unemployment rate provides an indication of how many workers are available for jobs and what the competition is for available employment. A very low unemployment rate could indicate a shortage of workers for newly created and existing jobs. It could also act as a pressure to raise wages and benefits, as employers face increased competition for qualified employees.

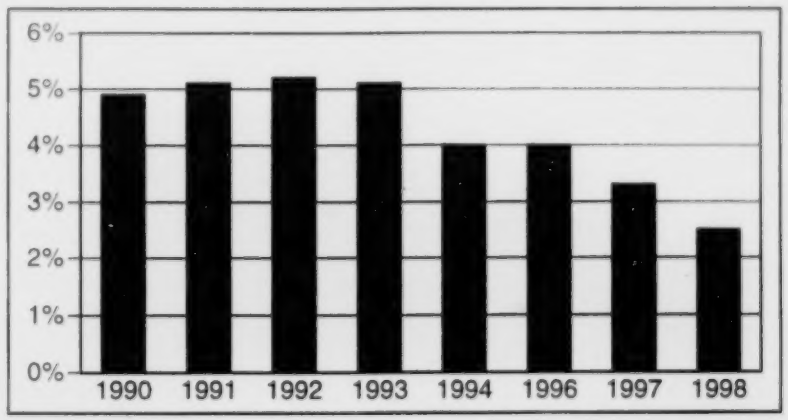
In Minnesota, like many parts of the country, unemployment rates are at historic lows. However, significant differences between regions show that the employment situation varies throughout the state. In 1997, unemployment rates varied from a low of 2.4% in the metro area (Region 11) to more than 6% in northern Minnesota (Regions 1, 2 and 5).

Where Can I Get More Information?

The Minnesota Department of Economic Security provides unemployment data on a monthly and annual basis at *http://www.des.state.mn.us/lmi* or (651) 296-6545.

Region	Unemployment Rate 1997
REGION 1	6.5%
REGION 2	7.1%
REGION 3	5.8%
REGION 4	4.3%
REGION 5	6.6%
REGION 6E	3.8%
REGION 6W	4.2%
REGION 7E	5.6%
REGION 7W	3.8%
REGION 8	3.6%
REGION 9	3.4%
REGION 10	3.0%
REGION 11	2.4%
STATE	2.5%

Minnesota Unemployment Rates, 1990-1998 (seasonally adjusted)



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Ratio of Dependents to Workers

What Does This Indicator Measure?

The ratio of dependents to workers is the number of children under 18 and the number of seniors age 65 and over, compared to the number of working-age adults. This gives an idea of the balance of children and seniors - who typically are not contributing significantly to the formal wage economy - and working adults.

Ratio of Dependents to Workers in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

What Does It Tell Us?

This ratio can show the size of the base of taxation for children and senior services such as education, childcare, medical care and transportation, compared to the need for such services. An increasing ratio can show that fewer workers are available to support children and seniors.

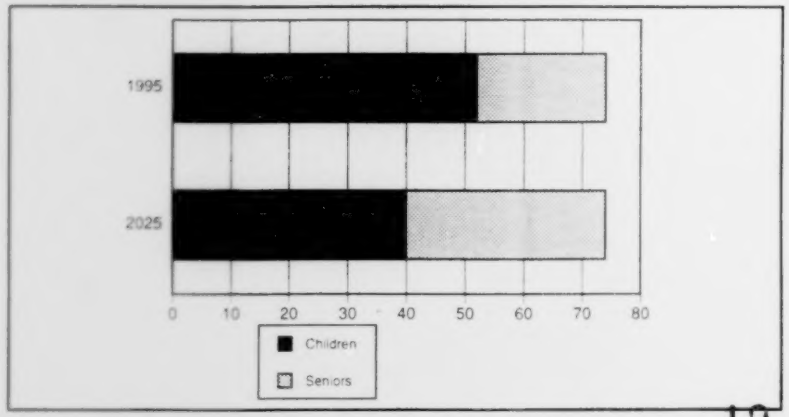
For the state as a whole, there were about 73 dependents for every 100 potential workers in 1995, a number projected to remain the same through 2025. However, in 1995 the majority of these dependents were children. By 2025, almost half of these dependents will be seniors. This has dramatic implications for employment, social services and medical care systems in Minnesota. Many rural regions will also see an even larger increase in older dependents and a decrease in child dependents.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Demographic projections about Minnesota population are available from Minnesota Planning at *http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/demography/demog_03.html* or (651)296-2557.

Region	# Per 100 Workers, 1995			# Per 100 Workers, 2025		
	Children	Seniors	Dependents	Children	Seniors	Dependents
REGION 1	60	35	95	47	42	92
REGION 2	62	28	90	53	63	98
REGION 3	51	31	82	42	23	95
REGION 4	58	33	91	44	63	95
REGION 5	60	34	94	46	45	95
REGION 6	68	36	82	44	43	87
REGION 7	59	20	77	47	23	79
REGION 8	59	40	99	48	48	96
REGION 9	56	30	86	43	85	82
REGION 10	55	26	81	41	41	80
REGION 11	47	16	63	36	28	65
STATE	52	22	73	40	34	74

Number of Dependents for Every 100 Working-Age Adults



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Major Industries & Projected Growth

What Does This Indicator Measure?

This indicator identifies the major industries in the state, region or county, based on the number of employees. It also gives an estimate of the projected growth in these industries for the decade between 1996 and 2006.

What Does It Tell Us?

Industries vary in the type of jobs they provide in terms of wages, benefits and hours. Knowing which industries predominate in an area indicates what type of work is available. Knowing whether these particular industries are likely to grow and how fast they are growing indicates what jobs will be available in the future and what needs exist for training and education.

In Minnesota as a whole, employment is projected to increase by 16% between 1996 and 2006. Employment in the services sector will increase faster, rising by 28%. Non-durable goods manufacturing and government employment will grow more slowly than employment overall. Mining and Agriculture/Fishing/Forestry will decline slightly, which will most affect areas of the state where those sectors are concentrated. (Tables for individual regions can be found on pages 13-23.)

Where Can I Get More Information?

Data on major industries and growth is available from the Minnesota Department of Economic Security at *http://www.des.state.mn.us/lmi/proj/proj1.htm* or (651) 296-6545.

State of Minnesota	1996 Estimated	2006 Projected	1996-2006 % change
Total Employed (all industries)	2,635,455	3,051,749	16%
Services	850,148	1,084,014	28%
Trade	591,456	667,190	13%
Manufacturing	429,610	470,271	9%
Durable Goods	247,029	277,345	12%
Non-Durable Goods	182,581	192,926	6%
Self-Employed/Unpaid Family Workers	165,386	176,500	7%
Government	162,568	171,840	6%
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	141,819	161,303	14%
Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities	120,385	135,626	13%
Construction	88,909	102,810	16%
Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing	77,284	74,520	-4%
Mining	7,890	7,675	-3%

Ratio of Government Payments to Wages & Salaries

Ratio of Government Payments to Wages & Salaries in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

What Does This Indicator Measure?

This indicator measures the relationship between government payments to individuals — social security, federal pensions, veterans benefits, food stamps and other programs — to the amount that people are earning through wages and salaries.

What Does It Tell Us?

When people think of government payments to individuals, they often think primarily of programs considered to be "welfare" such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or food stamps. However, the majority of government payments come from other programs such as social security payments, mostly benefit adults, and can form a significant source of the overall income within a county or region. Changes to government programs can have significant impacts on regional economies as well as on affected individuals.

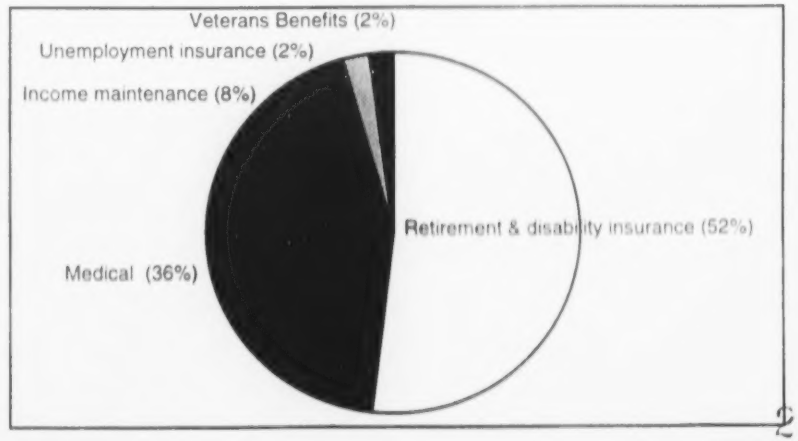
Throughout Minnesota as a whole, government payments to individuals were $160 billion in 1997, or about 21% of the amount earned through wages and salaries. The majority of these payments are retirement and disability payments and medical payments. Income maintenance programs like SSI, food stamps and family assistance comprised 8% of payments. The proportion of payments varies greatly by region. Some regions have government payments that are almost half of wage and salary income, while other regions earn a much greater share of income through wages and salary.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Data on income sources is available from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, *www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/spi/index.html* or call (202) 606-5360.

Region	Gov't Payments to Individuals 1997 (in $1,000s)	Wage & Salary Income (in $1,000s)	Gov't Payments as % of Wage & Salary Income
REGION 1	$ 347,416	$ 850,929	41%
REGION 2	$ 311,666	$ 613,191	51%
REGION 3	$ 1,403,466	$ 3,620,599	39%
REGION 4	$ 792,925	$ 1,704,782	47%
REGION 5	$ 610,331	$ 1,212,120	50%
REGION 6	$ 592,570	$ 1,707,905	35%
REGION 7	$ 1,213,156	$ 3,995,256	30%
REGION 8	$ 452,278	$ 1,139,554	40%
REGION 9	$ 746,564	$ 2,303,600	32%
REGION 10	$ 1,452,980	$ 5,828,882	25%
REGION 11	$ 8,195,429	$ 54,247,377	15%
STATE	$ 16,118,781	$ 77,224,195	21%

Federal Government Payments to Individuals, 1997



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Children's Services Spending Per Capita

What Does This Indicator Measure?

This indicator shows the county share of spending on children's services, divided by the number of children in the county. The category of children's services includes adoptions, child protection, adolescent life skills training and counseling directed toward the status unique to children. It does not include childcare spending. Of course, other county, state and federal spending also benefits children, including programs which benefit their parents and caregivers.

Children's Services Spending Per Capita in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Region	Children's Services Spending Total, 1997	Spending Per Child, 1997
REGION 1	$ 5,351,314	$ 213
REGION 2	$ 5,678,032	$ 267
REGION 3	$ 25,380,148	$ 323
REGION 4	$ 12,326,949	$ 230
REGION 5	$ 10,132,714	$ 250
REGION 6	$ 8,851,764	$ 197
REGION 7	$ 20,107,519	$ 156
REGION 8 south	$ 4,506,512	$ 209
REGION 8 north	$ 1,842,991	$ 169
REGION 9	$ 11,066,255	$ 180
REGION 10	$ 21,191,138	$ 181
REGION 11	$ 172,418,797	$ 265
STATE	$ 298,854,133	$ 239

What Does It Tell Us?

Children's Services is the spending category most dependent on county funding rather than on funding from state and federal sources. These programs often serve the most vulnerable children in the state, including those who are being cared for in shelters, foster care and group homes.

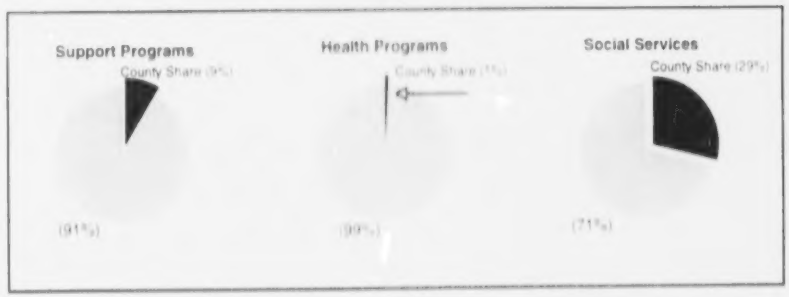
Counties in Regions 2, 3 and 11 generally spend a greater amount of county funds per child in the county than do counties in other regions. Region 7 and Region 8 north are areas that spend much less than the state average.

The share of spending contributed by counties versus the amount provided through state and federal sources varies greatly by the type of program. Counties bear a much higher percentage of the cost for social service spending than for health or income support programs.

Where Can I Get More Information?

The Minnesota Department of Human Services collects and analyzes county spending data annually for these programs. (651) 296-8625.

Program Spending by Category, County Share, 1997



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Revenue-Raising Capacity

What Does This Indicator Measure?

Revenue-raising capacity, also known as net tax capacity, is a measure frequently used to indicate the financial capacity of counties to pay for social service programs. It is based on the property tax wealth of each county, as determined by the state's property tax system. The dollar amount in the chart is how much would be raised by a 1% increase in property taxes, divided by each person in the county.

Revenue-Raising Capacity in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Region	Revenue-Raising Capacity, 2000 (estimated)
REGION 1	$ 543
REGION 2	$ 533
REGION 3	$ 529
REGION 4	$ 586
REGION 5	$ 721
REGION 6	$ 591
REGION 7	$ 629
REGION 8	$ 648
REGION 9	$ 613
REGION 10	$ 607
REGION 11	$ 777
STATE	$ 695

What Does It Tell Us?

While counties use money from a variety of sources besides the property tax, including state aids, the property tax is a major source of funding for social services, especially children's services. From the total tax capacity available to a county, policy makers in each county choose the rate at which they want to tap into that capacity to fund county programs.

Revenue-raising capacity amounts are calculated on a per capita basis to standardize the information across counties of different populations. Because of large variations across counties in population and property types, there are some wide variations in the measure. However, for most counties, it is an accurate representation of the fiscal constraints facing local program managers.

In general, northern Minnesota regions have a lower revenue-raising capacity than the rest of the state. The metro area has the greatest capacity.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Data on net tax capacity is collected by the Minnesota Department of Revenue. (651) 296-3425.

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Region 1

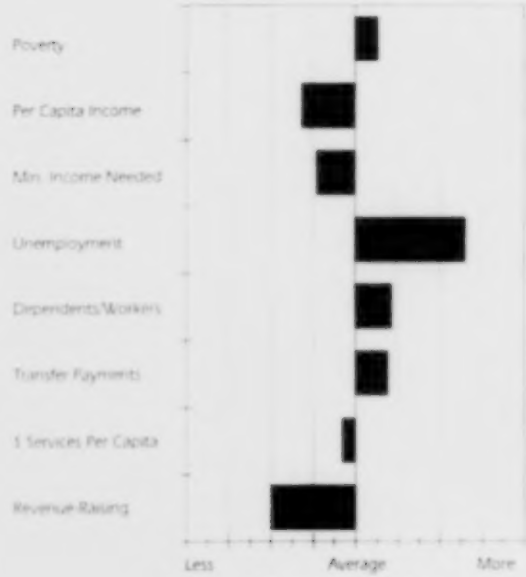
Including Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

	Projected Change 1994-2005
Manufacturing	20%
Trade	10%
Services	18%
Government	9%
Transportation & Public Utilities	6%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	3,773	15%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	10,535	12%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$18,907		$26,243	
Minimum family income needed, 1997 (1 parent, 2 kids)	$21,963		$28,733	
Minimum family income needed, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 kids)	$34,915		$38,540	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997		6.5%		2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	60		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	47		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	35		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	42		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		41%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$213		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$543		$695	

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 1



Compared to the Average Region 1998

28 Definitions for the data are on page 23

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Children's Defense Fund of MN, 200 University Ave. W., Suite 210, St. Paul, MN 55103, 651/227-6121, www.cdf-mn.org

Region 2

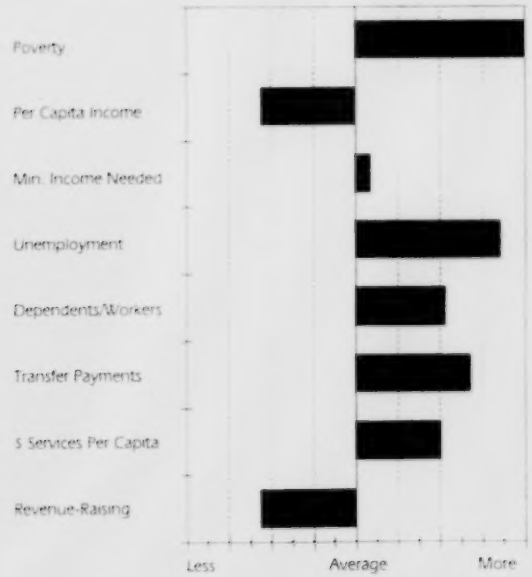
Including Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnomen Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

	Projected Change 1994-2005
Services	18%
Trade	10%
Government	9%
Manufacturing	20%
Construction	6%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	4,716	22%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	12,101	17%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$17,167		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children)	$23,906		$28,733	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children)	$36,324		$38,540	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997		7.1%		2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	62		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	53		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	28		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	63		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		51%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$267		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$533		$695	

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 2



Compared to the Average Region 1998

Definitions for the data are on page 23

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Region 3

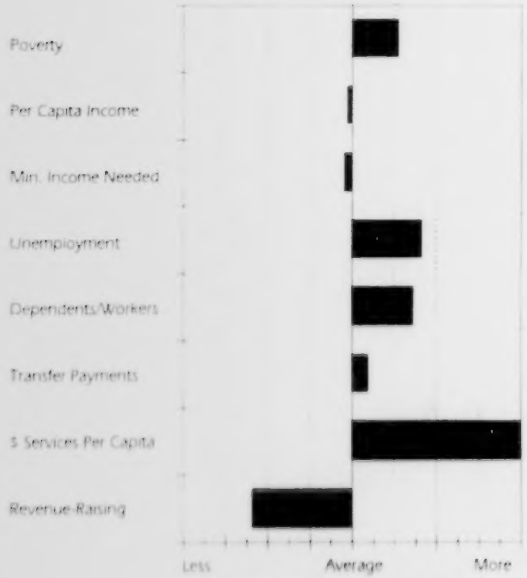
Including Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, and Saint Louis Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

	Projected Change 1994-2005
Services	20%
Trade	8%
Government	9%
Manufacturing	5%
Transportation & Public Utilities	1%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	12,659	16%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	36,658	12%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$20,927		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children)	$23,673		$28,733	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children)	$35,236		$38,540	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997		5.8%		2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	51		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	42		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	31		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	23		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		39%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$323		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$529		$695	

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 3



Compared to the Average Region 1998

Definitions for the data are on page 23.

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kids count minnesota

Region 4

Including Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse, and Wilkin Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

	Projected Change 1994-2005
Trade	10%
Services	18%
Government	9%
Manufacturing	20%
Construction	6%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	8,256	15%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	24,107	12%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$19,213		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children)	$21,642		$28,733	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children)	$34,356		$38,540	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997		4.3%		2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	58		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	44		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	33		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	63		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		47%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$230		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$586		$695	

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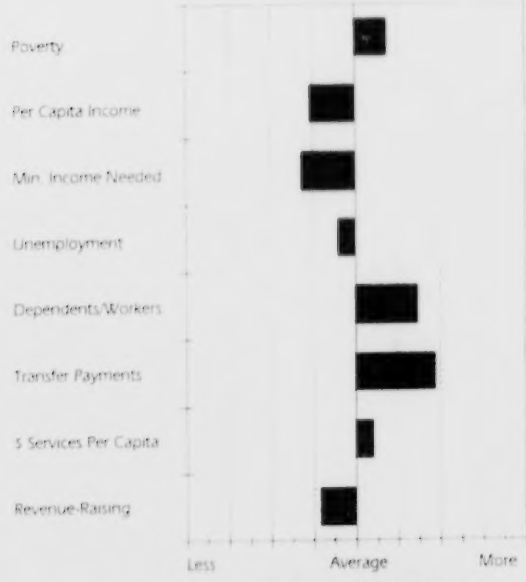
Definitions for the data are on page 23.

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 4



Compared to the Average Region 1998

35

Region 5

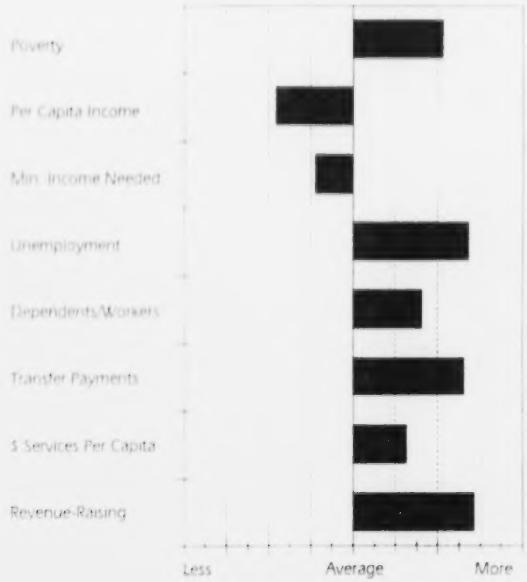
Including Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, and Wadena Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

	Projected Change 1994-2005
Services	18%
Trade	10%
Government	9%
Manufacturing	20%
Construction	6%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	7,304	18%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	19,759	14%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$17,863		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children)	$23,155		$28,733	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children)	$34,056		$38,540	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997		6.6%		2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	60		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	46		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	34		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	45		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		50%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$250		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$721		$695	

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 5



Compared to the Average Region 1998

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Definitions for the data are on page 23.

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Region 6

Including Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, Renville, Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac Qui Parle, Swift, and Yellow Medicine Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

Projected Change, 1994-2005

Region 6W		Region 6E	
Government	7%	Manufacturing	15%
Trade	4%	Trade	21%
Services	17%	Services	29%
Manufacturing	11%	Construction	20%
Construction	3%	Agriculture	-5%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	5,686	13%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	15,861	10%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$21,507		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children) (6W/6E)	$21,338/21,636		$28,733	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children) (6W/6E)	$34,537/34,357		$38,540	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997 (6W/6E)	4.2%/3.8%			2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	68		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	44		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	36		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	43		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % wage & salary income, 1997		35%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$197		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$591		$695	

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Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 6

Compared to the Average Region 1998

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Definitions for the data are on page 23. Some indicators divide this region into East and West.

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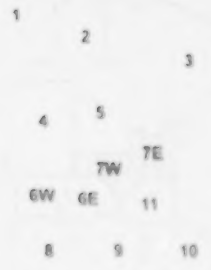
Region 7

Including Chicago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine, Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

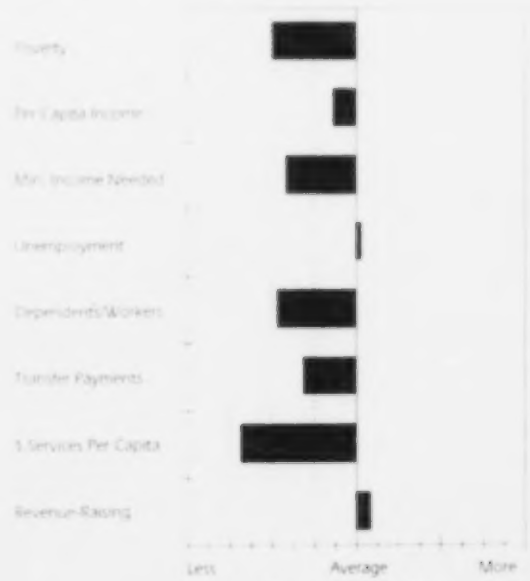
Projected Change, 1994-2005

Region 7W		Region 7E	
Trade	21%	Services	29%
Services	29%	Trade	21%
Manufacturing	15%	Government	8%
Government	8%	Manufacturing	15%
Construction	20%	Construction	20%



	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	12,036	10%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	32,814	8%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$20,171		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children) (7W, 7E)	$39,459–26,806		$28,731	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children) (7W, 7E)	$36,179–24,788		$28,340	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997 (7W, 7E)	1.8%, 3.4%		2.9%	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	59		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	47		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	20		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	23		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		8%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$156		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$629		$695	

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 7



Compared to the Average Region 1998

Definitions for the data are on page 24. Some indicators divide this region into East and West.

Region 8

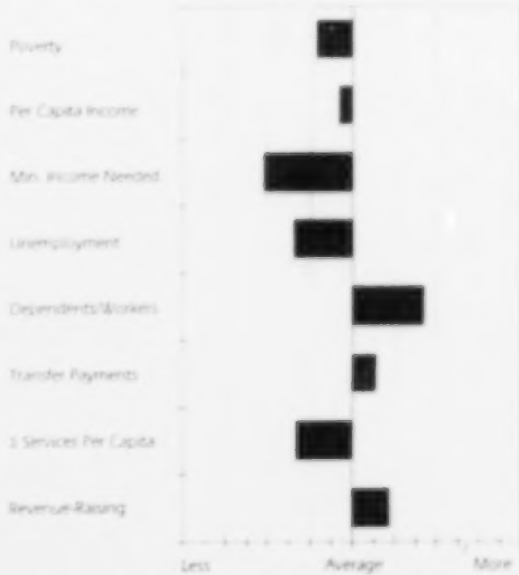
Including Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, and Rock Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

	Projected Change 1994-2005
Trade	4%
Manufacturing	11%
Government	7%
Services	17%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	2%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	3,988	12%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	11,373	9%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$20,591		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children)	$20,375		$28,733	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children)	$33,389		$38,540	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997		3.6%		2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	59		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	48		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	40		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	48		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		40%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$209		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$648		$695	

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 8



Compared to the Average Region 1998

Definitions for the data are on page 23

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Region 9

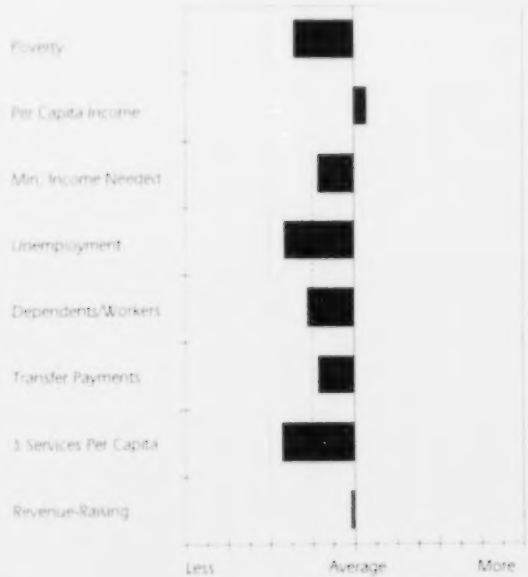
Including Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, and Watonwan Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

	Projected Change 1994-2005
Manufacturing	11%
Trade	4%
Services	17%
Government	7%
Construction	3%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	6,254	11%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	18,790	9%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$21,671		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children)	$22,342		$28,733	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children)	$34,742		$38,340	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997		3.4%		2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	56		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	43		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	30		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	85		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		32%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$169		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$613		$695	

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 9



Compared to the Average Region 1998

Definitions for the data are on page 23.

Region 10

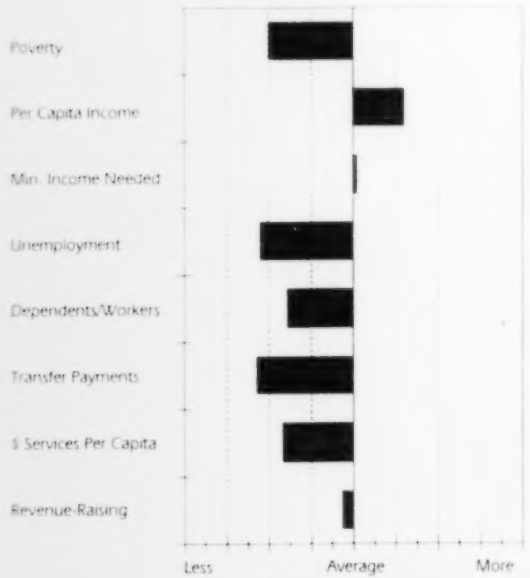
Including Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, and Winona Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

	Projected Change 1994-2005
Services	26%
Manufacturing	8%
Trade	14%
Government	9%
Construction	12%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	11,312	10%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	32,888	8%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$23,251		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children)	$23,888		$28,733	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children)	$35,710		$38,540	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997		3.0%		2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	55		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	41		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	26		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	41		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		25%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$180		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$607		$695	

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 10



Compared to the Average Region 1998

Definitions for the data are on page 23.

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Region 11

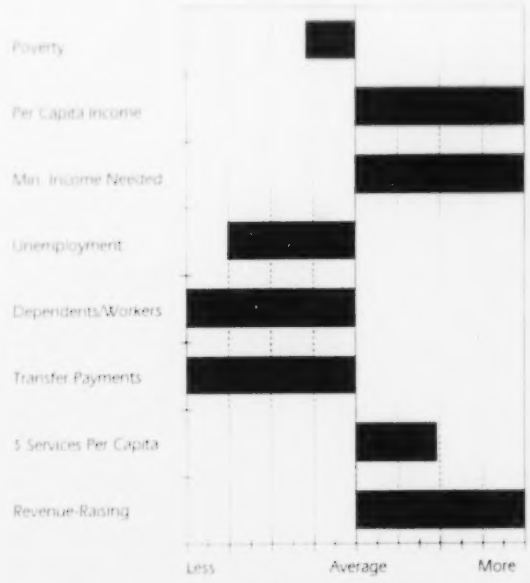
Including Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington Counties

Industries with Highest Employment

	Projected Change 1994-2005
Services	28%
Trade	13%
Manufacturing	2%
Government	7%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	17%

	Region		State	
Income				
Children living below the poverty line, 1995	72,450	11%	148,434	12%
Total poverty, 1995	188,170	8%	403,056	9%
Per capita personal income, 1997	$31,060		$26,243	
Minimum family income, 1997 (1 parent, 2 children)	$31,969		$28,733	
Minimum family income, 1997 (2 working parents, 2 children)	$41,838		$38,540	
Economic Environment				
Unemployment rate, 1997		2.4%		2.5%
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	47		52	
Number of child dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	36		40	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 1995	16		22	
Number of senior dependents for every 100 workers, 2025	28		34	
Public Spending				
Government payments as a % of wage & salary income, 1997		15%		21%
Children's services spending per capita, 1997	$181		$239	
Revenue-raising capacity per capita, est. 2000	$777		$695	

Measuring Economic Well-Being in Region 11



Compared to the Average Region 1998

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Definitions for the data are on page 23

Children's Defense Fund of MN, 200 University Ave. W., Suite 210, St. Paul, MN 55103, 651/227-6121, www.cdf-mn.org

kids count minnesota

Data Notes

All Persons in Poverty and **Children in Poverty** are the estimated number of people, and the estimated number of children under 18, whose families had incomes below the federal poverty line in 1995. It is provided every three years by the U.S. Census Bureau. (*http://www.census.gov/hhes/*) Complete estimate methodology is available at the Census Bureau web site.

Per Capita Personal Income. The personal income of an area is defined as the income received by, or on behalf of, all the residents of the area. It consists of the income received by persons from all sources, including wage and salary disbursements, other labor income, proprietors' income with inventory valuation and capital consumption adjustments, rental income of persons with capital consumption adjustment, personal dividend income, personal interest income, and transfer payments to persons, less personal contributions for social insurance. Per capita personal income is calculated as the personal income of the residents of an area, divided by the population of the area. This information is available on a national, state and county basis from the Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. *http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/spi/index.html* or by calling (202) 606-5360.

Minimum Family Income shows the costs of basic needs for Minnesota families (based on family size) for food, housing, health care, transportation, childcare, clothing/miscellaneous and net taxes. Apart from Earned Income Tax Credits, no government or child support payments are included. The following assumptions are made:

- the family cooks and eats all their meals at home, at the cost of the USDA low-cost family food plan
- the cost to rent and utilities is the HUD Fair Market Rent
- income is earned - workers are employed full-time and year-round
- the worker pays 3% of the premiums for an average family health insurance policy and the employer pays 70%
- the family has out-of-pocket health care expenses
- workers drive to work, and families have other transportation expenses
- all children are in childcare

(continued on page 24)

Data Notes, continued from page 23

- childcare costs are the region average for preschool and school-age children in homes and childcare centers
- the family has expenses for clothing and other miscellaneous household maintenance items
- net taxes are figured by taking standard deductions from 1997 tax schedules and by computing Social Security taxes, Earned Income tax Credits, Minnesota Working Family Credits and federal and state child care credits

More information, estimates and complete methodology are available in the Jobs Now report, "The Cost of Living in Minnesota." Call (651) 290-0240.

Unemployment Rate. In calculating the unemployment rate, "Employed persons" means all civilian, non-institutionalized persons aged 16 or older who, during the week of the 12th of each month:

- worked at least one hour for pay;
- worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family-operated business; or
- had a job but were temporarily absent (illness, bad weather, vacation, strikes, or other reasons even if not paid).

"Unemployed persons" includes all civilian, non-institutionalized persons aged 16 or older who, during the week of the 12th, were:

- not employed, available for work, and engaged in job-seeking activities during the last four weeks;
- waiting to be called back to a job from which they were laid off; or
- waiting to report (within 30 days) to a new wage or salaried job.

"Unemployed persons" does not count persons who worked at least one hour during the week of the 12th and persons with a job but not at work. It is provided at the state, regional and county level on a monthly and annual basis by the Minnesota Department of Economic Security. Complete methodology and comparison of data sources is available at *http://www.des.state.mn.us/lmi/laus/laus1.htm* or (651) 296-6545.

Major Industries and Projected Growth. These projections are produced biennially by the Minnesota Department of Economic Security, Research and Statistics Office. Major industries are ranked by number

(continued on page 25)

Data Notes, continued from page 24

of employees, and are available by Economic Development Region. Projected growth is available by geographic region (northwest, northeast, central, southwest, southeast, and Minneapolis-St. Paul). More information is available from the department at *http://www.des.state.mn.us/lmi/proj/proj1.htm* or (651) 296-6545.

Ratio of Dependents to Workers. This ratio was calculated by taking the number of persons under age 20 and the number of persons 65 and older and dividing it by the number of working age adults. Demographic estimates were obtained from the State Demographic Center at Minnesota Planning and are available at *http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/demography/demog_03.html* or by calling (651) 296-2557.

Ratio of Government Payments to Wages and Salaries is the proportion of total income in a county that comes from government payments to individuals, including retirement and disability insurance benefits, income maintenance (supplemental security income, family assistance, food stamps, other income maintenance), unemployment insurance benefits, veterans benefits, and federal education and training assistance payments. This information is available on a national, state and county basis from the Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. *http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/spi/index.html* or by calling (202) 606-5360.

Children's Services Spending Per Capita is the county share of 1997 social service program spending by Minnesota counties. It includes social service activities (including MA waivered services) which are directed toward the status unique to children, such as adoptions, child protection, and adolescent life skills training. Also included are the facilitative, supportive, administrative, and other functions necessary to pursue these activities. County share is derived from taking the total expenditures, minus the federal revenue, state revenue and miscellaneous revenue. More detailed information can be found in the annual *Minnesota County Human Service Cost Report*, available from the Minnesota Department of Human Services at (651) 296-8625.

Revenue-Raising Capacity per Capita, also known as net tax capacity, is the amount of money that a 1% increase in property taxes would raise per capita. The amount of money a county can raise is based on the total value of all of the taxable property in the county, as determined by the assessor, adjusted by the mix of property types in the county — i.e., residential, commercial, agricultural, etc. Therefore, the type of property within a county, as well as its value, is important in determining its total financial capacity. Data on net tax capacity is collected by the Minnesota Department of Revenue. Call (651) 296-3425.

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122 West Franklin Ave., Suite 315, Minneapolis, MN 55404; 612/870-3670